

Appln No. 09/734,237

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Reply to Office action of August 27, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraphs at page 7, line 30 through line 35, as follows:

FIG. 1A: DNA sequence of synthetic mdeA gene (1200bps with GGT insertion; SEQ ID NO. 3), called synmdeA. Nco I and BamH I cloning sites are engineered at 5' end and 3' end. The bold face uppercase nucleotides are the changed nucleotides from the original mdeA gene sequence.

FIG. 1B: First DNA segment, mdeA1 (426 bps; SEQ ID NO. 4), with Nco I and Pst I cloning sites.

FIG. 1C: Second segment, mdeA2 (414 bps; SEQ ID NO. 6), with Pst I and EcoR I cloning sites.

FIG. 1D: Third segment, mdeA3 (367 bps; SEQ ID NO. 8), with EcoR I and BamH I cloning sites.